...ungsters roam in places where ... ...ale, at the airport, in public offices, near garrisons or in ...e harbour, and innocently ask: *Kapan Pulang, Pak?* or

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ACFOA HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE
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Memo: re visit to East Timor by Ambassador Flood
Date: 11 July 1990

Australia's Ambassador in Jakarta, Mr Philip Flood, visited East Timor 3 - 5 July, 1990. He was accompanied by, amongst others, the head of AIDAB in Jakarta, Mr Tony Kelloway, and a military attache. The Ambassador visited Dili and Fatumaca and spoke with Governor Carrascalao, Bishop Belo, ICRC, some priests and senior Indonesian military.

The Ambassador made the following points in an interview with AAP in Jakarta on 10 July:

1. Human rights

According to Ambassador Flood, Bishop Belo, ICRC and the priests spoken to all said there has been a reduction in human rights abuses since January, including a reduction in the number of killings of non-combatants. This has coincided with a change in the military command structure. The new military commander, Waru (rank, location unknown) seems to have a more reasonable approach and to have the confidence of Bishop Belo and Mario Carrascalao, though alienation remains deep and the commander cannot control every officer in the province.

According to Ambassador Flood, Mario Carrascalao, Bishop Belo and the ICRC all said there is no substance to reports of a 'massacre' (sic) in the Ainaro area. The Ambassador said they were adamant on this and he has therefore concluded the reports are baseless.

The Ambassador has reported on the Lalerek-Mutin reports to Canberra confirming the murder of Candido Amaral and that those responsible have been punished and compensation has been made to the victim's family. The Ambassador did not know the nature of the punishment. Bishop Belo officiated at Candido Amaral's funeral.

2. Numbers of troops

According to Ambassador Flood the military commander denied there had been troop increases as reported in the Australian media. There has been a slight decrease. Governor Carrascalao agreed with this assessment. The clergy and Bishop Belo said it would be impossible to conceal increases of the size alleged.

3. AIDAB projects

Two Australian Government projects are proposed. One is a veterinary services project of AUD$1.5 million, similar to that in West Timor. Thousands of cattle in East Timor are lost through disease. The other is a water supply and sanitation project to cost AUD$1-2 million modelled on a similar project in Lombok. Both need Bappenas and ABRI approval as they will involve ex-patriates on the ground .

Pat Walsh